UNITED NATIONS

TD

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.
GENERAL

TD/B/WG.8/5
13 November 1995

Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Ad Hoc Working Group on Trading Opportunities
in the New International Trading Context
Second session
Geneva, 5 February 1996
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

# Provisional agenda and annotations for the second session of the Ad Hoc Working Group

## I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. Enhancement of the understanding of the implications of the new rules deriving from the Uruguay Round agreements and their follow-up, and identification of where and how developing countries and economies in transition concerned could be assisted to:

   (a) make use of the special clauses of the Final Act providing differential and more favourable treatment; and

   (b) implement and benefit from the commitments undertaken

3. Identification of areas in which technical cooperation should be strengthened

4. Other business

5. Adoption of the final report of the Ad Hoc Working Group to the Trade and Development Board.

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## II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda for the second session was approved by the Ad Hoc Working Group at its first session.

A proposal for the organization of work of the second session is given in section III below.

Item 2. Enhancement of the understanding of the implications of the new rules deriving from the Uruguay Round agreements and their follow-up, and identification of where and how developing countries and economies in transition concerned could be assisted to:

(a) make use of the special clauses of the Final Act providing differential and more favourable treatment; and

(b) implement and benefit from the commitments undertaken

The report on this item (TD/B/WG.8/6) analyses the trading opportunities with respect to three "contingency protection" agreements of the Uruguay Round, i.e. on safeguards, on anti-dumping practices and on subsidies and countervailing measures, to see to what extent these agreements and the national implementing legislation of the major trading nations present new trading opportunities for developing countries and countries in transition. The report seeks to identify the particular benefits arising from the application of differential and more favourable treatment and the difficulties developing countries may face in implementing and benefiting from these commitments.

Documentation

TD/B/WG.8/6 — An analysis of the implications of the new rules deriving from the Uruguay Round agreements on safeguards, anti-dumping, and subsidies and countervailing measures - report by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 3. Identification of areas in which technical cooperation should be strengthened

The report on this item (TD/B/WG.8/7) focuses, in the context of the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group, on the main problems for enhancing the participation of developing countries and economies in transition in the post-Uruguay Round international trading system and the identification of priority areas for technical cooperation, including national policy-making, institutional capacity building and human resource development, and participation in the multilateral and regional frameworks and negotiations processes.

Documentation

TD/B/WG.8/7 — The new international trading context: identification of areas for strengthened technical cooperation - report by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 4. Other business

Item 5. Adoption of the final report of the Ad Hoc Working Group to the Trade

and Development Board

Paragraph 7 of the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group states that the Group "shall submit a final report on the results of its work to the Trade and Development Board". The final report of the Ad Hoc Working Group will be considered by the Trade and Development Board at its eighteenth special session in December 1995.

## III. TENTATIVE ORGANIZATION OF WORK

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| Monday, 4 December | a.m. | Opening of the session<br><br>Item 2 of the provisional agenda<br><br>"Enhancement of the understanding of the implications of the new rules deriving from the Uruguay Round agreements and their follow-up, and identification of where and how developing countries and economies in transition concerned could be assisted to:<br><br>(a) make use of the special clauses of the Final Act providing differential and more favourable treatment; and<br><br>(b) implement and benefit from the commitments undertaken".<br><br>Informal discussions on item 2* |

* To assist the Ad Hoc Working Group in its deliberations on Item 2, in particular to enhance the understanding of the implications of the new "contingency protection" agreements of the Uruguay Round and their follow-up for developing countries and countries in transition concerned, a panel of experts is being convened to share its views with the Ad Hoc Working Group at its informal deliberations immediately after the opening session of Group on Monday morning, 4 December 1995. These experts are mainly private practitioners in contingency protection trade law and the panel will focus its informal deliberations on: (i) the trading opportunities resulting from three "contingency protection" agreements of the Uruguay Round, i.e. safeguards, anti-dumping practices and subsidies and countervailing measures as to what extent these agreements and the relevant national implementing legislation of the major trading nations present new trading opportunities for developing countries and countries in transition concerned and provide the security for those opportunities; (ii) the identification, with some case studies, of the extent to which the Uruguay Round agreements and the new implementing legislation represent an improvement from the previous system; (iii) the identification of the particular benefits arising from the application of differential and more favourable treatment and the difficulties developing countries and countries in transition concerned may face in implementing and benefitting from the commitments undertaken under these agreements; (iv) the identification of areas in which technical assistance should be strengthened, having in mind the respective problems faced by developing countries and countries in transition concerned.

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| | p.m. | Informal discussions on item 2 (continued) |
| Tuesday, 5 December | a.m. | Informal discussions on item 2 (continued) |
| | p.m. | Formal discussions on item 2 |
| Wednesday, 6 December | a.m. | Item 3 of the provisional agenda<br><br>Identification of areas in which technical cooperation should be strengthened<br><br>Formal discussions on item 3 |
| | p.m. | Formal discussions on item 3 |
| Thursday, 7 December | a.m. | Informal consultations on items 2, 3 and 4 |
| | p.m. | No meeting, to allow time for the preparation of the draft report. |
| Friday, 8 December | a.m. | Idem |
| | p.m. | Adoption of the final report of the Ad Hoc Working Group to the Trade and Development Board |